

T H E

GOSPEL VISITANT.

BEING PRINCIPALLY

ORIGINAL TRACTS ON MORAL AND RELIGIOUS
SUBJECTS ;

IN WHICH AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE

GOSPEL OF GOD OUR SAVIOUR

IS ATTEMPTED BY ARGUMENTS DRAWN FROM

SCRIPTURE AND REASON.

THE WHOLE DIRECTED TO THE PROMOTION OF PIETY AND
MORALITY.

BY THE GLOUCESTER CONFERENCE.

VOL. I.

Superintended by THOMAS JONES, *Gloucester, (Cape-Ann,)*
HOSEA BALLOU, *Portsmouth, (N.H.)* ABNER KNEELAND, *Charles-*
town, (Mass.) and EDWARD TURNER, *Salem, (Mass.)* Ministers of
the several Universal Societies in those places.

Charlestown :

PRINTED BY WILLIAM S. & HENRY SPEAR.

.....
1812.

.....

copy 3

CONTENTS.

	<i>Page.</i>
No. 1. Introduction, - - - - -	1
Answer to the question, What Profession of Faith, &c. - - -	3
Answer to the question, upon Forgiveness of Sin, - - -	19
Answer to the question on the Application of Christ's sufferings, - - - - -	34
Letter to a Methodist Minister, - - - - -	46
Remarks upon a Missionary's Report. - - - - -	50
On the Influence of Popularity upon Religious Opinion, -	51
Sir Richard Steele's Letter to the Pope, - - - - -	54
Love Divine, - - - - -	64
No. 2. Examination of Mr. Worcester's Discourse, - - -	65
Answer to the question concerning the proper subjects of participation at the Lord's Supper, - - - - -	99
Continuation of Steele's Letter to the Pope, - - - - -	101
Mr. Ballou's Discourse at Mr. Kneeland's Re-installation,	114
Dedication &c. - - - - -	127
Obituary Notice of Rev. Noah Murray - - - - -	127
Poem on Solitude - - - - -	128
No. 3. Steele's Letter to the Pope concluded, - - -	129
Mr. Kneeland's Farewell Sermons, - - - - -	135
Delivery of the scriptures and charge to the Rev. Abner Kneeland, by the Rev. Thomas Jones, - - - - -	159
Fellowship of the Universal Churches to the Rev. Abner Kneeland, by the Rev. Edward Turner, - - - - -	161
Letter to a Minister, - - - - -	164
An attempt to illustrate the Doctrine of Election, as stated by St. Paul to the Romans, - - - - -	169
An illustration of several important subjects - - - - -	183
Extract from an antient writer on Universal Salvation, -	189
Psalm, - - - - -	192
No. 4. The Two Olive Branches, - - - - -	193
Resurrection of the Dead, - - - - -	198
Second Death, - - - - -	209
Christ's Preaching to the spirits in prison, - - - - -	220
Millenium - - - - -	223
Letter to Rev. P. H. - - - - -	227
Remarks on Calvinism, - - - - -	243
Moral Reflections, - - - - -	252
Ode on Time, - - - - -	255

TO AGENTS AND PATRONS.

Having completed the first volume of the *Gospel Visitant*, the Publishers embrace this opportunity to present their sincere respects and grateful acknowledgements to their many *Agents* and *Patrons*, who have much encouraged this work by giving them their assistance and liberal support.

The increasing number of *Subscribers* (notwithstanding the discontinuance of some) is in evidence that the work has hitherto met with public approbation. There are yet many things, which we conceive to be of great importance to the christian world, and especially to the humble believer in the doctrine of *universal grace*, which we wish to lay before the public, and which we conceive may be done as well, or better, in this way, than in any other. The encouragement hitherto given to this work, has equalled, if not exceeded, our most sanguine expectations ; and we hope, in addition to our other labors, still to be useful in this way. This publication, in many parts of the country, may supply, in some measure, the lack of preaching ; for perhaps it is as true now, comparatively, as it ever was, that, "the harvest is great, but *faithful* laborers are few." We hear of new societies, springing up in the faith, in various parts ; and it is presumed that there never was a greater call for preachers, who dare to face an unbelieving world and proclaim the unbounded grace of God to the *chief* of sinners, than at this time. We would therefore suggest to our many societies, and individuals in the faith, who are not blest with the privilege of hearing that gospel which hath been declared by a voice from heaven to be *good tidings of great joy unto all people* regularly preached among them, the propriety of meeting together on the first day of the week, at some convenient place, to read the holy scriptures, which are able to make every one wise unto salvation, to exercise such gifts as may be present, in singing, praying, exhortation, or expounding the word ; and, for the want of public gifts, to read the *Gospel Visitant*, and such other books as may tend to instruction and edification. Such meetings, with the blessing of God, may be rendered very useful, and perhaps be the means of bringing forward many promising youth to labor in the vineyard of the great HUSBANDMAN, whose *vine* is CHRIST, and the *branches*, ALL MANKIND.